(d) whether the CWC have any objections to the removal of the huge quantities of sand which has accumulated on the Godavari river bed in this stretch, and

(e) the steps proposed to be taken to study the phenomena of sand accumulation in the River Godavari?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) No field survey has been conducted by Central Water Commission to ascretain the extent of sand on the river bed of Godavari between Rajahmundry and Bhadrachalam However, morphological aspects of Godavari river were studied in 1997 with limited available data, from which no definite conclusion could be drawn in terms of aggradation/degradation of the river bed

(c) Central Water Commission is maintaining two gauge and discharge sites on the River Godavari between Rajahmundry and Bhadrachalam Based on the cross-sections available from the year 1972 at these sites, it has been observed that there is no evidence of aggradation/degradation at these particular sites on long terms basis

(d) Generally, Central Water Commission would have no objection to the removal of sand from the river bed through the approval of State Government would be required However, querying should not be carried out near the CWC's gauge and discharge sites and should be away from the river banks.

(e) This comes within the purview of the State Government The role of Central Government is technical, catalytical and promotional in nature

Central assistance to Karnataka for irrigation projects

4328. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state

(a) whether with a view to augmenting its irrigation potential, the State Government of Karnataka has sought Centre's clearance/assistance for some of its irrigation projects, like the Markandeya Project, Upper Tunga Project, Bhima Lift Irrigation Scheme, Singatalur Lift Irrigation Scheme, Uduthurehalla Project and Varahi Project, etc., and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the present status in respect of each of the above and also such other pending proposals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The project proposals received from the Government of Karnataka in respect of Markandeya Project and Upper Tunga Project were techno-economically appraised and accepted by the Advisory Committee of Ministry of Water Resources subject to few observations. The project proposals for Bhima Lift Irrigation Scheme and Singatalur Lift Irrigation Scheme are under appraisal by the Central Appraising Agencies The Varahi Project being a project in the intra-State River Basin, the State Government itself can accord investment approval. Investment approval to Uduthurehalla Project is held up for want of final verdict of Cauvery Water Disputes Tribunal. In addition to the above, the project proposal for Hipparagi Project was accepted by the Advisory Committee of Ministry of Water Resources subject to few observations. Further, project proposal for Basapur Lift Irrigation Scheme is under techno-economic appraisal by the Central appraising agencies. In principle clearance accorded to Kalasanala-Banduranala Project is kept in abeyance

Dams on Kosi and Bagmati Rivers

†4329. SHRI NAND KISHORE YADAV : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state

(a) the details of the proposed multipurpose dams on the Kosi and the Bagmati Rivers and their tributaries;

(b) whether it is a fact that the floods in the above rivers result in loss of life and property worth crores of rupees in North Bihar each year;

(c) if so, the details of steps Government are taking to control this loss, and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) As regards the dam on Kosi River, an India - Nepal Joint Project Office has been opened at Biratnagar (Nepal) in August, 2004 for field investigations and preparation of Detailed Project Report (DPR) of Sapta Kosi High Dam Multipurpose Project and Sun Kosi Storage Cum Diversion Scheme. Further it has also been agreed by Nepal to carry out the feasibility study of Kamla Multipurpose Project and preliminary study of Bagmati Multipurpose

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi